# GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
# HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
# LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:423
ANSWERED ON:31.03.2017
Communicable and NonCommunicable Diseases
Premachandran Shri N.K.

**Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:**

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to introduce programme for prevention of communicable diseases and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the Government has conducted any study regarding the gravity of communicable diseases in the country and if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has taken initiative for control of non-communicable diseases and if so, the details thereof;

(d) the steps taken by the Government to create awareness among the citizens regarding food habits and healthy lifestyle so as to control such diseases along with the details of financial assistance given by the Government to the States for implementation of projects to control life style diseases State/UT-wise; and

(e) the details of the initiatives taken by the Government for control of emerging infectious diseases during the last three years?

## Answer

ANSWER
THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
(SHRI JAGAT PRAKASH NADDA)

(a) to (e): A statement is laid on the Table of the House

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 423* FOR 31ST MARCH, 2017

(a) A number of National Health Programmes have already been introduced by the Government with a view to preventing specific communicable diseases. These include National Vector Borne Diseases Control Programme (NVBDCP), National Leprosy Elimination Programme (NLEP) and the Revised National Tuberculosis Control Programme (RNTCP). The Integrated Disease Surveillance Programme (IDSP) has also been started in all States/UTs for detecting and responding to outbreaks due to epidemic prone diseases. All these national programmes have wide outreach throughout the country. Funds under these programmes are provided to all States/Union Territories to strengthen public health care system.

(b) Studies/surveys have been conducted under various programmes at the national and the regional levels for detection/elimination of the communicable diseases from time to time. These include:
i. A National study to estimate Malaria cases and deaths due to malaria in the country by the National Institute of Malaria Research, Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) in collaboration with the National Institute of Medical Statistics and National Vector Borne Disease Control Programme;
ii. National Sample Survey conducted by the National JALMA Institute of Leprosy and Other Myco-bacterial Diseases (NJIL&OMD), Agra, to estimate new leprosy case load, assess leprosy burden by recording Grade-I and Grade-II disability cases and assessing the magnitude of stigma and discrimination prevalent in the population.
iii. A National Drug Resistance Survey for Tuberculosis has been conducted by the National Tuberculosis Institute(NTI), Bengaluru.
(c) While health is a state subject, the Central Government supplements the efforts of the State Governments to provide health care including tertiary level health care for Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs).The following major programmes have been launched for controlling NCDs by the Government:
i. The National Programme for Prevention and Control of Cancer, Diabetes, Cardiovascular Diseases and Stroke (NPCDCS) for interventions up to District level under the National Health Mission. It focuses on awareness generation on behavioural risk factors such as unhealthy food habits and lifestyle changes, screening and early diagnosis of persons with high level of risk factors and their treatment and referral (if required) to higher facilities for appropriate management, development of Human Resource and setting up of infrastructure such as NCD clinics.
ii. Under the National Dialysis Programme, more than one lakh patients have undergone about 11 lakh dialysis sessions in various district hospitals in the country till date.
iii. Under Tertiary Care Cancer Centre (TCCC) Scheme, the Government of India is assisting the States to establish State Cancer Institute (SCI) and TCCCs in different parts of the country.
iv. For population level screening for diabetes, hypertension and common cancer viz. oral, breast and cervix, Operational Guidelines have been shared with State Governments with the request to submit their proposals in their State specific Programme

Implementation Plans (PIP) under NHM.
v. Under Pradhan Mantry Swasthya Suraksha Yojna (PMSSY), 6 new AIIMS have been made operational. Up-gradation of identified Government medical colleges/ institutions, for higher specialty facilities has been undertaken.
(d) The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has requested all States/UTs and the Ministry of Human Resource Development to issue appropriate directions to schools and colleges for withdrawing foods high in saturated fat and carbonated drinks from canteens and promoting healthy food habits. Jointly, the two Departments have also designed booklets for school children to promote healthy life styles. The Food Safety and Standards Authority of India issued guidelines for making available wholesome, nutritious, safe and hygienic food to school children in India on 12-10-2015 whereby the availability of most common HFSS (High in Fat, Salt and Sugar) Foods in schools has been restricted/limited. These guidelines have also been uploaded on the website of FSSAI.
FSSAI has launched campaign on social media such as Face-book, documentary films on YouTube, educational booklets, information on FSSAI website, stalls at Fairs/Melas/Events and mass awareness campaigns, etc. to disseminate information on safe and nutritious food. Details of funds released to State/UT Governments under NPCDCS during last three years and for setting up/establishing SCIs and TCCCs under NPCDCS are at Annexures I & II.
(e):The Government has taken a series of steps to prevent the spread of outbreaks including those of emerging infectious diseases. Under the Integrated Disease Surveillance Programme, States/UTs have been provided with additional manpower, training has been imparted to identified Rapid Response Team (RRT) members for outbreak investigations, laboratories for detection of epidemic prone diseases have been strengthened along with provisions of IT tools/equipment. Funds are also released under IDSP to all States as grant −in −aid to undertake diseases surveillance and outbreak response activities. As part of the IDSP, a network of 12 labs is running for Influenza Like Illness and Severe Acute Respiratory Infection Surveillance work of pandemic H1N1Influenza in the country since 2009.
NCDC is also providing referral diagnostic services in respect of various emerging infectious diseases (zoonotic & arboviral) viz. rabies, brucellosis, leptospirosis, rickettsial diseases, Japanese Encephalitis, Dengue, Chikungunya, Anthrax. Preparedness for laboratory diagnosis of emerging infections which pose potential threat viz. Ebola fever, Yellow Fever, Zika virus disease etc. The National Institute of Virology is the major National Monitoring Center for Influenza, Japanese encephalitis, Rotavirus, Measles and Hepatitis.
Under RNTCP, the strategies adopted include strengthening and improving quality of basic TB services, addressing TB HIV co-infection, other co-morbidities and MDR-TB. Further, targeted interventions in the vulnerable population, integrating newer molecular diagnostics for TB in the health system for early diagnosis of TB, Information Communication Technology(ICT), etc. have been leveraged for TB notification and strengthening of monitoring by using the Nikshay software.